

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 063284

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TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

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GENEVA FOR CSCE

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PAGE 02 STATE 063284

1. HIGHLIGHTS. INDOCHINA USUALLY FEATURED IN RECENT
NEWSPAPERS; WEDNESDAY NYTIMES WASHPOST FEATURED PROJECT
JENNIFER, BALTSUN FRONTPAGE IT TODAY. THURSDAY FRONT PAGES
HAVE MORE ON JENNIFER; NYTIMES FEATURES RECORD PAYMENTS

DEFICIT; BALTSUN FRONTPAGES BRITIAN CUTS DEFENSE DRASTICALLY, NATO PROTESTS. COMMENT SCATTERED.

1A. TUESDAY PAPERS INSIDE HAD STORIES ON HELSINKI SUMMIT PROPOSAL; MONDAY WASHSTAR HAD LOCAL UPI REPORTING REP. ASPIN SEES THREAT OF NUCLEAR THEFT IN LAX SECURITY IN US UNITS IN WEST GERMANY; NYTIMES WASHPOST HAD COUPLE PARAS IN LONG STORIES WHICH MENTIONED SFRC VOTED 9-TO-6 TO APPROVE LEHMAN AS DEPUTY ACDA DIRECTOR FOLLOWING SYMINGTON CRITICISM AND KISSINGER COMMENDATION. PAPERS REPORTED PORTUGUESE CABINET SHIFTING TO LEFT.

1B. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAD BRIEFS ON SALT AND TROOPS; PAPERS ALSO HAD BREZHNEV IN BUDAPEST LINKING DETENTE TO PEACE. NYTIMES BALTSUN HAD MOSCOW STORIES REPORTING JEWS CHARGE SOVIETS WITH ANTI-EMIGRATION DRIVE; WASHPOST HAD

NEW YORK REUTERS REPORTING TELFORD TAYLOR TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE A BAND OF AMERICAN LAWYERS HAS BEEN TELLING SOVIET UNION THEIR TRIALS OF JEWS VIOLATE SOVIET LAW. TUESDAY JACK ANDERSON COLUMN REPORTED CIA REVEALS THAT DURING COLD WAR DOZENS OF CIA INFILTRATORS SLIPPED BEHIND IRON CURTAIN, ADDING ALL WERE EXECUTED BUT USUALLY TORTURED FIRST UNTIL NEARLY DEAD.

1C. THURSDAY PAPERS REPORT KISSINGER GLOOMY OVER WORLD SITUATION; WASHPOST REPORTS 34 BRITISH LABOUR MPS DEMAND OUSTER OF 10 CIA AGENTS FROM AMEMBASSY LONDON.

2. SALT. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST WORLD ROUNDUP INCLUDED GENEVA ITEM REPORTING AMERICAN AND SOVIET NEGOTIATORS BEGAN WORK ON DRAFTING A NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS TREATY THAT WOULD CODIFY AGREEMENTS REACHED AT VLADIVOSTOK. ITEM ADDS THAT IN PARIS THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED GISCARD HAS AGREED TO SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR A SUMMER SUMMIT OF CSCE.

2A. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR HAD GENEVA UPI REPORTING BEGIN-UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 063284

NING OF FORMAL DRAFTING OF NEW NUCLEAR WEAPONS TREATY AT SALT, ADDING JOHNSON AND SEMENOV SET UP EXPERT WORKING GROUPS TO DRAFT ARTICLES OF THE NEW PACT; THE EXPERTS HAVE TO TRANSLATE INTO FORMAL TREATY LANGUAGE THE AGREEMENTS REACHED AT VLADIVOSTOK.

3. CSCE. TUESDAY WASHPOST GENEVA BRIEF SAID BREZHNEV HAS FORMALLY PROPOSED JUNE 30 AS DATE FOR HELSINKI SUMMIT, ACCORDING WESTERN SOURCES, ITEM ADDING EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE HAS BEEN MAKING SLOW PROGRESS AND WESTERN DELEGATES RECENTLY SAID A SUMMER SUMMIT WAS UNLIKELY UNLESS THERE WERE SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS BY WARSAW PACT NATIONS.

3A. TUESDAY NYTIMES HAD GENEVA SPECIAL REPORTING WESTERN DIPLOMATS SAID SOVIET UNION WANTS CSCE SUMMIT ON JUNE 30, BREZHNEV HAVING PROPOSED THAT DATE IN LETTERS TO GISCARD WILSON SCHMIDT MORO. SPECIAL SAID 35 COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING SINCE SEPTEMBER 1973, SOVIET UNION MAINLY CONCERNED WITH SEEING ADOPTED A SET OF PRINCIPLES THAT WOULD RATIFY THE POST-WAR MAP OF EUROPE, SPECIAL ADDING THAT AMONG REMAINING ISSUES ARE THOSE ON FREEDOM TO TRAVEL, WORKING CONDITIONS ACCORDED FOREIGN NEWSMEN AND OTHER PROBLEMS IN AREA OF HUMAN CONTACTS THAT ARE OF PRIME INTEREST TO WEST.

3B. TUESDAY BALTSUN PARKS MOSCOW REPORTED SOVIET-LED WARSAW PACT YESTERDAY PROMISED INCREASED FLEXIBILITY ON

THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES AT CSCE AS MOSCOW SOUGHT A JUNE SUMMIT, ADDING KADAR SAID IN BUDAPEST THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH ALL FLEXIBILITY FOR AGREEMENT ON ALL BASIC QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION. EAST EUROPEAN SOURCES SAID THIS WAS INTENDED AS A PLEDGE OF GOODWILL AND COOPERATION TO RESOLVE ISSUES IN TIME FOR JUNE SUMMIT. AFTER MENTIONING BREZHNEV LETTER PARKS SAYS WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN GENEVA, LIKE THEIR COLLEAGUES IN MOSCOW, EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBTS THAT THE COMMITTEES WORKING OUT THE PRINCIPLES COULD FINISH THEIR WORK IN NEXT FOUR TO SIX WEEKS IN ORDER TO ALLOW A UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 063284

SHORT BREAK BEFORE THE CONCLUDING SUMMIT, ONE SENIOR WEST EUROPEAN DIPLOMAT IN MOSCOW SAYING DIFFERENCES ARE NOT TOO WIDE TO BE RESOLVED BUT ARE TOO NUMEROUS TO BE RESOLVED QUICKLY, AND ADDING THAT ONLY IF ONE ALLOWS FOR MAJOR COMPROMISES ON PART OF SOVIETS CAN A JUNE 30 DEAD-LINE BE MET.

3C. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN OISHI BONN SAID WESTERN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE REACTED WITH CAUTION TO JUNE 30 PROPOSAL, BUT BREZHNEV'S LETTERS APPEARED TO HAVE PROMPTED THE NINE COMMON MARKET CHIEFS TO JOINTLY ENDORSE, AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE, THE SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR A SUMMIT MEETING. OISHI SAID SOURCES IN BONN LONDON GENEVA WERE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN THE TIMING OF THE NEW SOVIET INITIATIVE, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME SPECULATION THAT BREZHNEV MAY BE THINKING ABOUT RETIRING FOR HEALTH REASONS AND DESIRING SUMMIT SESSION FIRST. OISHI SAID FORD ALSO RECEIVED A BREZHNEV LETTER, ADDING THAT GISCARD'S REPLY SAID SUMMIT POSSIBLE BEFORE END OF FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR PROVIDED MORE PROGRESS WAS MADE IN GENEVA, ALSO THAT THE DUBLIN COMMART POSITION WAS CHIEFS SOUGHT QUOTE BALANCED AND SATISFACTORY RESULTS ON ALL THE SUBJECTS ON GENEVA AGENDA

UNQUOTE, THIS FORMULATION BEING TOUGHER THAN THE NIXON-BREZHNEV AGREEMENT ENDORSED BY FORD AT VLADIVOSTOK, ACCORDING OISHI, BUT REPRESENTED PROGRESS FROM SOVIET POINT OF VIEW BECAUSE IT WAS FIRST TIME COMMART CHIEFS HAD JOINTLY INDICATED WILLINGNESS FOR A SUMMIT.

3D. WEDNESDAY BALTSUN ALSO HAD LONGISH WASHINGTON SPECIAL, HEADED US WANTS CONCESSIONS FOR SUMMIT, STORY SAYING US OFFICIALS REJECTED SOVIET PRESSURE AND SAID FORD WILL NOT AGREE TO HELSINKI SUMMIT UNLESS MORE OUTSTANDING ISSUES ARE SETTLED IN ADVANCE, WHEREAS STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID ADMINISTRATION WAS CONFIDENT PROGRESS STILL TO COME WOULD CLEAR WAY FOR SUMMIT AT AN EARLY DATE. SPECIAL REPORTS US OFFICIALS SAID RUSSIANS

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STILL HAVEN'T PROVIDED ENOUGH SUBSTANCE TO JUSTIFY A SUMMIT MEETING, ADDING GREATEST WEAKNESSES ARE IN TWO AREAS: STATEMENTS ON PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES AND UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 063284

ON FREE MOVEMENT OF IDEAS AND PEOPLE ACROSS BORDERS--SPECIFICALLY GREATER EAST-WEST TRAVEL FREEDOM FOR TEACHERS, TOURISTS, AND JOURNALISTS; ALSO ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN EASTERN EUROPE AS A GESTURE TOWARD STABILITY; PLUS INVIOABILITY OF BORDERS EXCEPT FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE, WHICH WOULD LEAVE INTACT THE GOAL OF EVENTUAL GERMAN REUNIFICATION. STORY SAYS ONE OFFICIAL REMARKED FORD'S PERSONAL CRITERIA FOR A SUMMIT ARE LESS CLEAR, THAT HE LIKES IDEA OF EUROPEAN TRIP INCLUDING SUMMIT AND HE MIGHT MAKE CONCESSIONS ON SOME POINTS TO BRING IT ABOUT.

3E. WEDNESDAY NYTIMES HAD, AS TRAILER TO BUDAPEST STORY ON BREZHNEV'S SUPPORT OF DETENTE, WASHINGTON SPECIAL HEADED FORD STUDYING PROPOSAL. SPECIAL QUOTED DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY HUSHEN AS SAYING ADMINISTRATION HAS NOTED THAT HEADWAY IS BEING MADE AT GENEVA, SUMMIT IS HIGHLY PROBABLE, AND US WILL PARTICIPATE IF PROGRESS CONTINUES. OTHER OFFICIALS, SAID STORY, VOICED US PREFERENCE FOR JULY MEETING AND EXPECT CONSULTATIONS WITH WESTERN EUROPEAN ALLIES ON THIS IN VIEW OF WORK STILL TO BE DONE IN GENEVA.

4. TROOPS. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST HAD WORLD ROUNDUP ITEM FROM BRUSSELS HEADED, MILITARY INFLUENCE, REPORTING US IS SENDING SEVERAL THOUSAND COMBAT TROOPS INTO EUROPE IN A MOVE DESIGNED TO INFLUENCE THE SOVIET UNION AT VIENNA TALKS, ACCORDING INFORMED NATO SOURCES TALKING WITH REUTER CORRESPONDENT. ITEM ADDED SOURCES SAID A 4,000-MAN BRIGADE WILL BE AIRLIFTED TO WEST GERMANY FROM TEXAS OVER NEXT FEW WEEKS.

5. JENNIFER. WEDNESDAY STORIES SAID CIA SALVAGE SHIP LAST SUMMER BROUGHT UP PART OF SOVIET SUBMARINE LOST NORTHWEST OF HAWAII IN 1968, BUT FAILED TO RECOVER CODEBOOK OR ATOMIC MISSILES; BODIES OF NEARLY 70 RUSSIAN SAILORS WERE FOUND AND BURIED AT SEA. THURSDAY WASHPOST MARDER-MORGAN STORY SAYS FORD ADMINISTRATION GRAPPLED WITH PROBLEM OF HOW TO ACKNOWLEDGE SECRET AMERICAN EFFORTS TO RAISE SOVIET SUBMARINE WITHOUT DAMAGING US-SOVIET RELATIONSHIPS, ALSO NOTES KREMLIN'S UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 063284

SILENCE ABOUT WHAT US OFFICIALS REGARD AS A MAJOR TECHNOLOGICAL COUP EVEN THOUGH IT FAILED IN ITS TOTAL OBJECTIVE.

5A. THURSDAY NYTIMES EDITORIAL SAYS SINCE U-2 WAS SHOT DOWN IT HAS BEEN COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT BOTH SIDES USE THE LATEST TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS TO SPY ON ONE ANOTHER. JENNIFER WAS REALLY BRILLIANT EFFORT, DEMONSTRATING ONCE AGAIN AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY HAS CONQUERED THE HITHERTO INACCESSIBLE.

5B. BALTSUN EDITORIAL SAYS WHAT JENNIFER WILL DO TO DETENTE AND SALT IS ANYBODY'S GUESS. IMPACT ON LOS CONFERENCE PROBABLY WILL BE HARDENING OF SMALLER COUNTRIES POSITION IN FAVOR OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY TO MINE THE SEA RATHER THAN LICENSE OTHERS TO DO SO. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES: WHY DO CIA OPERATIONS PRODUCE MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS?

6. PORTUGAL. NYNEWS MARCH 18 EDITORIAL SEES PORTUGAL RAPIDLY PULLING INTO COMMUNIST ORBIT AND SUSPECTS EFFORT TO OUST US FROM AZORES. BALTSUN MARCH 18 SAID PORTUGUESE PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER FROM YOUNG OFFICERS THEY WELCOMED LAST YEAR, ARE ENTITLED TO THE LIBERAL DEMOCRACY THAT WAS PROMISED THEM. WASHPOST MARCH 18 SAID BASIC COMMUNIST STRATEGY SEEMS TO BE WORKING, EXPLOITING ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH TO COMPENSATE FOR ITS POPULAR WEAKNESS. POST NOTED PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT RETRACTED ITS CHARGE OF US BACKING FOR PRO-SPINOLA COUP, BUT DID SO ONLY PRIVATELY. C.S. MONITOR MARCH 18 ALSO SEES PORTUGAL GOING LEFT, SAYS BIGGEST HOPE IS THAT ELECTIONS BE HELD.

6A. NYTIMES MARCH 19 EDITORIAL SEES WESTERN CONCERN WELL-FOUNDED, COMMUNISTS HAVE EXPLOITED A PURPORTED RIGHTIST COUP IN ORDER TO SEIZE THE REAL LEVERS OF POWER, NOTING ALSO THE BANNING OF TWO LEFTIST GROUPS AND CENTER-RIGHT CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. EDITORIALS SAYS MOSCOW EVIDENTLY SEES NO FURTHER REASON TO DELAY ITS MILITARY EXPLOITATION OF THE SITUATION, MENTIONING PORT FACILITIES IN MADEIRA AND MEDITERRANEAN COULD FACILITATE OPERATIONS

OF INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING VESSELS, ADDING IF A SUBMARINE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 063284

BASE COULD BE BUILT THE EFFICIENCY OF SOVIET NUCLEAR-
MISSILE SUBS COULD BE SUBSTANTIALY INCREASED. THE
DETENTE ATMOSPHERE WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO RETRACTION
OF AMERICAN AND NATO MILITARY POWER, SAYS NYTIMES,
APPEARS TO BE HAVING OPPOSITE EFFECT ON SOVIET UNION
WHICH IS THRUSTING OUT IN INDIAN OCEAN, MEDITERRANEAN,
RED SEA AND SOUTH ATLANTIC. IF NOW ELECTIONS ARE
CIRCUMVENTED AND COMMUNISTS TAKE OVER, THUS SWINGING A
NATO ALLY DIRECTLY INTO SOVIET ORBIT, THE FUTURE OF
DETENTE UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE HEADED FOR AN AGONIZING
REAPPRAISAL. INGERSOLL

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